

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

VP 7a

~~SECRET~~

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Action
SS

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9:00 PM

Info

FROM: NEW YORK

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1635, NOVEMBER 5, 8 PM

DECLASSIFIED

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By smg, NARS, Date 5/9/77

PRIORITY

DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE

EYES ONLY

EYES ONLY FOR THE SECRETARY

CUBA

NARASIMHAN AND LOUTFI INFORMED YOST AND WELLBORN THAT EARLIER THIS AFTERNOON THEY MET WITH MOROZOV ON RED CROSS INSPECTION SYSTEM AND HE MADE FOL POINTS:

UN SAID SOVS HAVE SHIP AVAILABLE IN HAVANA WHICH COULD BE PLACED AT DISPOSAL OF RED CROSS TOMORROW MORNING. THEY REFUSED TO HAVE US VESSEL USED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

MOROZOV SAID THAT DISMANTLING WILL BE COMPLETED AND ALL OFFENSIVE WEAPONS WILL HAVE BEEN SHIPPED OUT OF CUBA BY NOV 12. SOME OF NECESSARY SOV SHIPS ARE ALREADY IN CUBA AND REMAINDER WILL ARRIVE DURING CURRENT WEEK. THERE IS THEREFORE NO REASON FOR CONTINUING RED CROSS SYSTEM MORE THAN TEN DAYS FROM TODAY. MOREOVER HE SAID THAT INCOMING SHIPS NOT ONLY HAVE NO SO-CALLED OFFENSIVE WEAPONS BUT HAVE NOT EVEN SINGLE RIFLE OR BULLET ABOARD. THAT BEING CASE ONLY 2-4 INSPECTORS WILL BE REQUIRED. FURTHERMORE ALL SOV VESSELS WILL BE GOING TO HAVANA SO THAT ONLY SINGLE CHECKPOINT AND SINGLE INSPECTION VESSEL ARE NECESSARY.

SOVS WILL PAY COST OF ANY VESSEL THEY MAY PROVIDE FOR THIS PURPOSE BUT OTHER COSTS OF OPERATION MUST BE BORNE EITHER BY US, UN OR RED CROSS. IT APPEARED SOVS WOULD NOT OBJECT TO UN BEARING COST.

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ELEZ DMTA

~~SECRET~~

1635, NOVEMBER 5, 8 PM, FROM: NEW YORK

RESPONSE WE MADE IT CLEAR THAT SOV VESSEL WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE AND THAT UN SHOULD PROCEED AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE WITH NEUTRAL VESSEL, PRESUMABLY ONE OR MORE SWEDISH VESSELS IN CARIBBEAN AREA. NARASIMHAN SAID UN WOULD ITSELF CHARTER WHATEVER VESSELS PROVED NECESSARY.

WE ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT NO SPECIFIC DATE FOR TERMINATION OF RED CROSS SYSTEM COULD BE FIXED AT THIS TIME. RED CROSS INSPECTION IS TEMPORARY SUBSTITUTE FOR US QUARANTINE WHICH PRESIDENT HAD AGREED WOULD BE LIFTED WHEN SOVS HAD WITHDRAWN OFFENSIVE WEAPONS, THIS WITHDRAWAL HAD BEEN VERIFIED AND SATISFACTORY ASSURANCES HAD BEEN GIVEN AGAINST REINTRODUCTION SUCH WEAPONS. IT WOULD BE IN OUR VIEW AT CONCLUSION OF THIS WHOLE TRANSACTION THAT ICRC INSPECTION, AS PARTIAL SUBSTITUTE FOR OUR BLOCKADE, WOULD BE TERMINATED. WE THOUGHT MAXIMUM OF ONE MONTH WOULD PROBABLY BE SUFFICIENT, BUT THAT WOULD DEPEND ENTIRELY ON WHETHER SATISFACTORY SOLUTION OF ABOVE POINTS COULD BE REACHED BY THAT TIME.

NARASIMHAN AND LOUTFI SAID THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT FURTHER WITH KUZNETSOV ON THIS POINT SINCE MOROZOV HAD MADE CLEAR THAT, IF PROPOSALS HE WAS PUTTING FORWARD WERE NOT ACCEPTED, PARTICULARLY THAT OF DURATION OF ICRC OPERATION, OBJECTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE TAKEN UP AT HIGHER LEVEL.

WE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT WE ARE SATISFIED WITH ASSURANCES AGAINST INTRODUCTION OF WEAPONS WHICH OUR QUARANTINE GIVES US AND THAT WE ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER ICRC PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS PUT FORWARD BY SOVS, ONLY WITH A VIEW TO LOWERING TEMPERATURE.

IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER BRIEF MTG WAS HELD AT WHICH STEVENSON, MCCLOY AND SYG WERE PRESENT AND SOME OF ABOVE POINTS WERE REVIEWED AGAIN.

IN ADDITION SYG MENTIONED THAT KUZNETSOV HAD TOLD HIM THIS MORNING OF ALTERNATIVE TO ON-SITE INSPECTION WHICH HE HAD PROPOSED TO MCCLOY YESTERDAY AND INQUIRED WHETHER THIS WOULD

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BE SATISFACTORY TO US. MCCLOY SAID THAT WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE ON-SITE INSPECTION, TO WHICH WE UNDERSTOOD KHRUSHCHEV HAD COMMITTED HIMSELF, TO BE OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE. HE CITED NUMEROUS STORIES OF WEAPONS BEING HID IN CAVES AND ALLUDED TO EASE WITH WHICH WARHEADS COULD BE HIDDEN. HE POINTED OUT KUZNETSOV'S PROPOSALS MERELY ENABLES CHECK ON REMOVAL OF WEAPONS WHICH SOVS SAID THEY HAD BROUGHT IN.

THANT ALSO SAID HE HAD RAISED WITH KUZNETSOV THIS MORNING QUESTION OF IL28'S. KUZNETSOV HAD REPLIED THAT THIS WAS NEW ISSUE, THAT IT WAS NOT COVERED IN KENNEDY-KHRUSHCHEV CORRESPONDENCE AND THAT IT CONSTITUTES NEW PROBLEM. US SIDE DESCRIBED AT SOME LENGTH EXACTLY HOW IT WAS COVERED IN CORRESPONDENCE AND EMPHASIZED NOT ONLY THAT IT IS NOT NEW PROBLEM BUT THAT ITS SATISFACTORY SOLUTION IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL.

SYG EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT SOVS ARE ENDEAVORING TO CLEAR UP THIS OPERATION AND TO SATISFY US. IF IL28'S ARE STILL UNDER THEIR CONTROL HE BELIEVES THEY WILL BE RAPIDLY WITHDRAWN. IF HOWEVER THEY HAD BEEN ALREADY TURNED OVER TO CASTRO THEIR WITHDRAWAL MAY CONSTITUTE VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM.

WHILE NO ONE PRESENT HAD ANY DEFINITE INFORMATION AS TO WHETHER MIKOYAN IS MAKING ANY PROGRESS IN PERSUADING CASTRO TO ACCEPT ON-SITE INSPECTION, UN OFFICIALS WERE PESSIMISTIC ON THIS POINT. BUNCHE DECLARED THAT WHAT IS BEING ASKED OF CUBA ON VERIFICATION HAS NEVER BEEN GRANTED BY ANY SOVEREIGN COUNTRY AND HE DOUBTED CASTRO WOULD ACCEPT. STEVENSON REPORTED FROM THIS AFTERNOON'S MTG OF LA AMBS THAT THERE IS VERY WIDE INSISTENCE AMONG THEM ON SOME FORM OF ON-GROUND INSPECTION.

STEVENSON

MRJ

NOTE: PASSED WHITE HOUSE 9 PM 11/5/62.

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EXCISED COPY FOLLOWS

SECRET

Foreign Service of the
United States of America

OUTGOING

EXCIS

Charge:

Classification

Control

(2)

November 5, 1962
Date: 8:00 p.m.

SENT TO: SECRETARY WASHINGTON PRIORITY 1635

YES ONLY FOR THE SECRETARY DEPT PASS WHITE HOUSE

EYES ONLY

NO DIS REVIEW

RE: CUBA

that ~~SECRET~~ removed
Herasimov and Ioubil informed Yost and Wellborn/earlier this afternoon O/FADRC
they met ~~SECRET~~ on Red Cross inspection system and he made FCL notes

UN said SOVS have ship available in Havana which could be placed at disposal of Red Cross tomorrow morning. They refused to have U.S. vessel used for this purpose.

~~SECRET~~ dismantling will be completed and all offensive weapons will have been shipped out of Cuba by NOV 12. Some of necessary SOV ships are already in Cuba and remainder will arrive during current week. There is therefore no reason for continuing Red Cross system more than ten days from today. Moreover he said that incoming ships not only have no so-called offensive weapons but have not even single rifle or bullet aboard. That being case only 2-4 inspectors will be required. Furthermore all SOV vessels will be going to Havana so that only single checkpoint and single inspection vessel are necessary.

SOVS will pay cost of any vessel they may provide for this purpose but other costs of operation must be borne either by U.S., UN or Red Cross.

It appeared SOVS would not object to UN bearing cost.

OW:ost:shh
COUES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

In response
REVIEWED BY ~~SECRET~~ DATE 4/6/84
CLASSIFIED BY ~~SECRET~~
DATE ~~SECRET~~ DATE ~~SECRET~~
EXCLUDED EXISTING MARKINGS ☐ 1.3 (c)
DECLASSIFIED ☐ 1.3 (d)
RELEASABLE ☐ 1.3 (a)
PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS ~~SECRET~~

ATTACHMENT NO. 12
DOCUMENT NO. 184

NO

In response we made it clear that SOV vessel would not be acceptable and that we should proceed as promptly as possible with neutral vessel, presumably one or more Swedish vessels in Caribbean area. Karasinha said we would itself charter whatever vessels proved necessary...

We also made it clear that no specific date for termination of Red Cross system could be fixed at this time. Red Cross inspection is temporary substitute for U.S. quarantine which President had agreed would be lifted when SOVS had withdrawn offensive weapons, this withdrawal had been verified and satisfactory assurances had been given against reintroduction such weapons. It would begin our view at conclusion of this whole transaction that ICRC inspection, as partial substitute for our blockade, would be terminated. We thought maximum of one month would probably be sufficient, but that would depend entirely on whether satisfactory solution of above points could be reached by that time.

Karasinha and Louff said that they would have to consult further with

[redacted] this point since [redacted] made clear that, if proposals he was putting forward were not accepted, particularly that of duration of ICRC operation, objections would have to be taken up at higher level.

We also emphasized that we are satisfied with assurances of introduction of weapons which our quarantine gives us and that we are willing to consider ICRC proposal, which was put forward by SOVS, only with a view to lowering [redacted] temperature.

Immediately thereafter brief MEU was held at which Stevenson, McElroy and SIG were present and some of above points were reviewed again.

B-1
A-3
A-5

B-1
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[REDACTED]

B-1
A-3
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[REDACTED]

B-1
A-3
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[REDACTED]

B-1
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[REDACTED]

B-1
A-3
A-5

STEVENS

DEPT 21113